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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY 25X1

China (Sinkiang) [] USSR

REPORT NO. []

SUBJECT

City of Kashgar

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The road from Kashgar to Karghalik is a two-lane "cobblestone" road capable of being traversed all year round. It was built across the plain in 1944 by Chinese Communists who forced the population to spend part of each week on this construction.

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2. Merchants from Kashgar exported carpets, silk, and coins (for ornaments) to [] but the flow of business to the town of Osh, USSR, was about 100 times the amount of business []. Dried fruits, hides, wool, cotton, and furs, were exported to the USSR in exchange for small manufactured products. All business with the USSR had to flow through the Soviet-Sinkiang Trading Commission located at Kashgar. Merchants from Kashgar often had to accept undesirable products from the USSR in exchange for their goods. These products consisted of alcohol, cigarettes, matches, and candles.

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3. Kashgar is the largest city and largest business center in south Sinkiang. It is the religious center for Sinkiang. In Kashgar there is a Moslem University, Mudarassah University, which offered courses in Moslem religious law, Arabic and Persian. It trained priests, judges, lawyers, and medical doctors. The level of medicine would border on alchemy on US standards because the common treatment for all ills was to boil grass and drink the liquid from it. In Kashgar there were three hospitals []

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4. Kashgar is now composed of the old and new city, separated by nine km. The Chinese population is located in the new city.

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